

MAX ROWE PAYS TRIBUTE TO OUR AMERICAN HERO, JOHN GLENN

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to share with my colleagues an article written by Max Rowe. On November 8, 1998, Mr. Rowe, a guest columnist for the Springfield Journal-Register, wrote an article paying tribute to John Glenn entitled, "Glenn is a hero for the ages."

Mr. President, I would like to speak for a brief moment about Mr. Rowe and some of his accomplishments. Max attended the University of Illinois where he received his B.A. and law degree (J.D.). Following his academic career at the University of Illinois, he furthered his education by pursuing a Master of Business Administration from the University of Chicago. After completing his education, Max went on to work for the Kirkland & Ellis law firm where he dedicated over 30 years of his life to his true passion, the practice of law. In 1995 Max was elected to the Illinois Senior Hall of Fame, and he volunteers part-time at the Memorial Medical Center in Springfield. On the side, he is a management consultant and writes for the Journal-Register.

I believe Max's life experiences inspired him to pay tribute to John Glenn, a man whom he respects so much, and a man who will keep withstanding the test of time, much like himself. John Glenn, one of his all-time heroes and someone I have had the honor to serve with in the Senate, is an inspiration to so many people in so many ways. To some he is a husband, a father, a grandfather, an astronaut, a United States Senator, or a Presidential candidate, but to all of us he is a true American hero.

Mr. President, I ask that the full text of Max Rowe's article, "Glenn is a hero for the ages," be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Springfield Journal-Register, Nov. 8, 1998]

GLENN IS A HERO FOR THE AGES

(By Max Rowe)

One of my all-time heroes is former and present astronaut John Glenn, who is now 77 years old and has just completed a mission with six other astronauts on the space shuttle discovery.

We senior citizens and those of you over 50 remember well when John Glenn blasted off Cape Canaveral into Earth orbit on Friendship 7 almost 37 years ago. In that five-hour mission he would orbit the Earth three times at an altitude of 100 miles, traveling at over 17,000 mph.

From start to finish the venerable and trusted Walter Cronkite covered the flight on our TVs, using words only, as there were no sophisticated cameras at Cape Canaveral or on board Glenn's space ship that could cover the actual flight. At lift-off Cronkite yelled, "Go, baby!"

On board Friendship 7, John Glenn had only one simple, hand-held camera to snap shots out of his window. In Glenn's interviews after his splashdown, he kept using the word "pleasant" to describe his experience with zero gravity on his flight and his views of Earth. He is quoted as saying, "This free-floating feeling, I don't know how to describe it except that it is very pleasant. It's an in-

teresting feeling. Sunset at this altitude is tremendous. I've never seen anything like this. It was a truly beautiful, beautiful sight."

Before Glenn's 1962 spaceflight, two Russians had orbited Earth. Glenn helped us catch up with (and eventually surpass) the Russians in spaceflight experience and technology.

On the afternoon of Oct. 29, 1998, I sat before my TV waiting through two short delays for the launch. At 1:20 p.m. "successful lift-off" put John Glenn and six other astronauts into an almost nine-day space flight on Discovery. What a contrast to his 1962 flight! Discovery has about a dozen high-tech cameras to keep NASA and us informed of every phase of the flight and thousands of controls and pieces of complicated, marvelous equipment to record everything from start to finish. At last we will learn, among other things, the effect of spaceflight on an older person and on the aging process.

John Glenn has been a role model for us all his life, serving with great distinction in World War II as a Marine combat flier on 59 missions. He has been decorated with 20 medals, including six Distinguished Flying Crosses and the Congressional Space Medal of Honor.

He married his childhood sweetheart in 1943 and has two children and two grandsons.

Glenn will retire in January 1999 after serving as a U.S. Senator from his home State of Ohio for 24 years. He has proven it is possible to be a happy and devoted family man in spite of living for so many years with fame and in the spotlight of Washington, DC.

I hope every American is as proud and thrilled as I was as John Glenn and his six companions headed off into space on their historic mission. John Glenn's return to space is important to all us senior citizens and to people over 50 years young, who will soon join our rapidly growing senior group. He is verifying that we are not "over the hill" and that with proper physical, emotional and mental activity, we still have many satisfying and useful years to live.

Before heading into space, Glenn spent over 500 hours in rigorous physical training to prepare himself for his very demanding space journey. Those of you who have been reading my earlier columns will remember that one of my recommendations for living to age 104 is regular, vigorous exercise. For most of us seniors, a 30-minute daily brisk walk will do wonders for our health and happiness.

The worldwide interest in this spaceflight will do much to heighten interest in space travel for the rest of us and help NASA's future programs and funding. Let's you and I make a date to fly to Mars in the year 2010!

God bless you and keep you safe, John Glenn. You truly have all "The Right Stuff!"

RETIREMENT OF LSU SYSTEM PRESIDENT ALLEN COPPING

• Mr. BREAUX. Mr. President, this month marks the end of a distinguished and remarkable career in public education for the president of my state's flagship university. At month's end, Dr. Allen A. Copping will be retiring, leaving the post of president of the Louisiana State University System that he has held since March of 1985.

Dr. Copping's retirement is significant for several reasons. Under his able and dedicated leadership, the LSU System has enjoyed enormous growth and development and is recognized around

the country as a leader in educational excellence in numerous fields of academic pursuit. Dr. Copping's fourteen-year tenure is significant for another reason: He will always be remembered as the first health scientist to hold the position as LSU president.

Allen Copping is a native of New Orleans, born in 1927 and educated in the city's public schools. After graduating from Loyola University with a Doctor's degree in Dental Surgery in 1949, Dr. Copping entered the U.S. Navy and served our country with distinction during the Korean Conflict. After the war, he returned to New Orleans, where he began a very successful dental practice and also landed on the faculty of the Loyola University School of Dentistry. In 1968, Dr. Copping joined the faculty of the newly created LSU School of Dentistry as an associate professor and, six years later, he was appointed the second dean of the LSU School of Dentistry.

As dean, Dr. Copping's leadership ability and his vision quickly caught the eye of the LSU Board of Supervisors, which chose him to head the LSU Medical Center as Chancellor in 1974, a position he held with distinction for the next eleven years. During his years at the helm of the Medical Center, Dr. Copping helped initiate a remarkable expansion in both the curricular offerings and in the physical facilities at the Center.

On March 18, 1985, Allen Copping became the third president of the LSU System and the fifteenth LSU president, a job that entailed the leadership and supervision of the eight campuses in the system and management of an annual budget of over two billion dollars.

During his tenure as LSU president, Dr. Copping guided the system through some very challenging years, highlighted by the development of the world-renowned Pennington Biomedical Research Center at Baton Rouge and the addition of the Health Care Services Division of the LSU Medical Center.

Throughout his years at the helm of the LSU System, Dr. Copping enjoyed a well-deserved reputation as a man of extraordinary loyalty, honesty, compassion and sincerity who is unalterably devoted to public education and the well being of his native state of Louisiana.

Mr. President, on behalf of the citizens of my state, I wish to congratulate Allen Copping on a well-deserved retirement and offer my profound gratitude for the leadership that he has provided the LSU System over the past fourteen years. He will be missed, but I know that I and other public officials will continue to benefit from his wisdom and his commitment to providing a quality education that meets the needs of our country's most precious commodity—our young people. I wish Allen and Betty and their family all the best in this next and very exciting phase of their lives.●

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

• Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure to rise in observance of Greece's 178th anniversary of National Independence. Today, we are here to pay tribute to Greek and American democracy, and to our shared commitment to peace and stability in the Balkans and Eastern Mediterranean.

On March 25, 1821, the Greek people initiated their victorious pursuit of liberty from four centuries of oppressive Ottoman rule. After nearly ten years of struggle against overwhelming odds, the Greeks accomplished this historic request, reaffirming their commitment to the individual freedoms that are at the heart of the Greek tradition.

From the beginning of their revolution, the Greeks had the support, emotional and material, from a people who had recently gained freedom for themselves: the Americans. Looking back at their triumphant march toward liberty, the American people followed with affinity the Greek pursuit for national independence. Since then, our two nations have remained firmly united by a shared commitment to democratic principles. These ties were reinforced by thousands of Greeks who came to America for greater economic opportunity. These immigrants and their descendants continue to make their own important and unique contributions to America's economic and political strength.

As a nation whose founders were ardent students of the classics, America has drawn its political convictions from the ancient Greek ideals of liberty and citizenship. And just as America looked to the Greeks for inspiration, Greek patriots looked to the American Revolution for strength in the face of their own adversity. The exuberance and passion of a young nation dedicated to freedom lifted the spirits of the Greek patriots, and reminded them of their long-standing democratic legacy.

As we enter the next century, it is appropriate that we retrace our common struggle to build societies based on individual rights, equality and the rule of law. During World War I, our nations forged a steadfast alliance to maintain peace in the Balkans. During the Second World War, Greeks heroically resisted the brutal Nazi regime, defeated Mussolini's troops, and contributed in no small part to the allied victory over the Axis Powers. At the Cold War's inception, President Truman and the American people committed to helping Greece rebuild their war-ravaged nation through the Marshall Plan. Greece continues to play an important role as a valued member of the international community within NATO and the European Union.

Today, as one of the few stable democracies in its region, Greece has played a stabilizing role throughout the Balkans and is helping its neighbors progress toward greater political and economic security. Greek eco-

nomics modernization, along with its status as a member of the European Union, allow Greece to act as a model for and play a constructive role in the economic well being of its neighbors.

Mr. President, the new millennium promises an even stronger Greek-American relationship and further cooperation in the areas of our mutual interests. Through ties of blood and affection, as well as shared political goals and philosophical ideals, Greece has retained a special relationship with the United States. Therefore, on this important occasion, it is fitting that we remember this historical legacy and rededicate ourselves to the principles which inspired the free and democratic peoples of America and Greece. •

CENSUS

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I was troubled by a recent report in Roll Call which details a plan by House Republicans to devise a media campaign to support their efforts to shut down the government in order to restrict census sampling. I ask that this article be printed in the RECORD at the end of my statement.

Mr. President, the census is a critical issue for my State and for the nation. The census count determines how nearly 200 billion of federal funds are allocated. An inaccurate count means that these federal funds are misallocated.

According to a recent study by the nonpartisan General Accounting Office, the 1990 census undercounted the United States population by about 4 million people—or approximately 1.6 percent of the entire population.

Many states had undercounts above the national average. California's undercount was 2.7 percent; New Mexico's was 3.1 percent; Texas' 2.8 percent; and Arizona's 2.4 percent, just to name a few.

According to the GAO, 22 of the 25 large formula grant programs use census data as part of their allocation formula. Those funds are used for our schools, health care facilities, and transit systems. California was the most harmed because of the 1990 census undercount, losing nearly 2.2 billion in federal funds, or 2,660 per person missed.

In 1998 alone, California lost 198 million in federal funds for Medicaid; 9.4 million for foster care; 3.2 million for Social Security; 1.9 million for child care and development; and 1.1 million for vocational training. Millions more in federal dollars for adoption assistance, prevention and treatment of substance abuse, highway planning and construction, and other programs did not flow to California because of the inaccurate census.

Other states also suffer: Texas lost almost 1 billion because of the 1990 undercount, and Arizona, Florida, Georgia, and Louisiana each lost over \$100 million.

Moreover, all areas and groups are not undercounted at the same rate, and

some members of our society are more likely to be missed than others. According to the GAO, 5.7 percent of African Americans were not counted in the 1990 Census. Nor were 5 percent of Latinos and 4.5 percent of Native Americans. Of the 835,000 people undercounted in California, most were minorities. Nearly half the net undercount—47 percent—were Hispanic. Twenty-two percent were African-American and 8 percent were Asian.

Such differences in census coverage introduce inequities in political representation and in the distribution of federal funds. Because Hispanics, African-Americans, and other minority groups had a larger undercount than whites in the 1990 Census—as in prior censuses—minorities and the communities in which they live have been disadvantaged in government programs in which population is an important factor in fund allocation.

This is an issue of basic fairness. Every American should be counted. And unless we can provide the Census Bureau with our support for an accurate census, and do so without any political intervention, then we run the risk of doing a grave injustice to our citizens.

Since the failed 1990 population count, the Census Bureau has worked with experts to design a more accurate census for 2000. The National Academy of Sciences, in three separate reports, concluded that the key to improving accuracy in the census is the use of sound statistical methods to count those missed during the conventional "head count." This involves detailed "statistical sampling" to determine the characteristics of those who are missed by the head count.

But for partisan reasons, some in Congress evidently prefer to ignore the expert advice and plan to shut down part of the government rather than see an accurate count. They argue that sampling is unnecessary. Unfortunately, during the Census 2000 Dress Rehearsal the undercount was 6.5 percent for Sacramento, California; 3.1 percent for the Menominee Indian Reservation in Wisconsin; and 9.1 percent for the entire state of South Carolina.

The magnitude of such undercounts and the implications for the 2000 Census that fails to correct the problem are particularly great for states with large and diverse populations, such as Florida, Texas, Arizona, New York, California and many others.

The Supreme Court has affirmed that sampling is required for purposes other than apportionment if 'feasible'.

The census should not be about politics. And Mr. President, I will oppose any efforts to include any restrictions on the ability of the Bureau of the Census to conduct the most accurate census possible. Anything else would simply be unfair.

The article follows: